

Comment from a Council Member:

Local Government is facing a drastic change in a 2 to 3 year period. We are faced with rising costs and a loss of revenue. The same problems always faced by the taxpayer.

My opinion is that the burden of taxing will be shifted from the statehouse to local counties, towns, and city governments. With the property taxes issue, also the elimination of inventory tax in '07, a gap will be created in funds for local governments to work with.

Local government will be empowered to create local taxes and fees to fill this gap in funding. This will be a major shift in policy for our small town and a dilemma on how to apply taxes and fees to ourselves!!

Difficult, Yes! We can't turn the lights out, or let all our streets fall apart. We have to provide police and fire protection, trash pick-up, water and sewer utilities, and more.

It's our community, it's our home. What we do with it is up to us.

This commentary is also on the Town of Fortville's website. The address is www.fortville-in.gov. There will also be a link to email your comments or concerns.

Mike Ferris